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Cultural Affairs Committee

11-23-2003

War, the Economy, and the Universe

University of Maine

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THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE GRANT APPLICATION

PROVIDE 10 (TEN) COPIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL.
PLEASE PLACE A COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET ON TOP OF EACH COPY

I. Applicant/Organization:	Marxist and Socialist Studies		
II. a. Responsible Organization Officer:	Doug Allen*		
b. Title:	Coordinator	The Maples 1-3860	
c. Campus Address (include EMail and Telephone):	Douglas, Allen @ unit. maine.edu		
*note: Prof. Allen is on leave during 2003-04. You may also contact Prof. Michael Howard 1-3860, michael.howard@unit.maine.edu			
III. Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date (s):	"War, the Economy and the University", including Key note Speaker Phyllis Dennis, panelists Mike Prokosh, Joseph Gerson, and Chellie Pingree, and a United For a Fair Economy Workshop. February 21, 2004, University of Maine		
Expand in fuller detail, a supporting statement with <u>detailed, itemized budget</u> . Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of detailed budget and attendance report for any previous years' grants.			
IV. a. Total funding required for program:> \$ 2220.00		
b. Amount committed by applicant organization:> 0 -		
c. Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources:> 1000.00		
d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee:> 1220.00		
Signature of responsible organization officer/date:	 SIGNATURE		11/23/03 DATE

SPACE BELOW FOR COMMITTEE USE:

\$1,000

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
C/O PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
200 ALUMNI HALL

Grant Proposal to support "War, the Economy, and the University"

This is the first application to the Cultural Affairs Committee from Marxist and Socialist Studies. The interdisciplinary minor has sponsored for many years a Luncheon Series of speakers and panels, and some of those speakers were on campus for other events sponsored by Cultural Affairs. The event to be supported is a half-day conference on February 21, 2004 on the theme of war, the economy and the University. It is partly intended to provide some alternative perspectives to those likely to be presented in the conference of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health on Doing Business in Iraq, tentatively rescheduled for March 2004. It will address the relationship between the war in Iraq and the U.S. and world economy, and the role of the University with respect to military intervention and the economy. Even if that conference is not rescheduled for the Spring, the issues addressed will continue to be of general public interest.

The conference will consist of a keynote speaker, Phyllis Bennis, from the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C., a workshop on War and the Economy, conducted by Mike Prokosch, from United for a Fair Economy, Boston, Mass., and a panel discussion including Prokosch, Joe Gerson of New England American Friends Service Committee, and Chellie Pingree, Director of Maine Common Cause. More information on the speakers and the workshop is provided below.

The expected audience includes faculty, students, and Maine citizens interested in the issues. We expect participants to travel from as far away as Portland and Presque Isle for such a conference, based on interest in the issue of University involvement in doing business in Iraq in Fall 2003, and the quality of the program and presenters.

The conference will be co-sponsored by the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine, which will provide refreshments and publicity, organizing help, and will collect donations at the door to cover some of the expenses. Because the precise attendance and the amount to be collected are somewhat uncertain, we are asking for a grant to cover a little over half the cost of the conference. However, if Cultural Affairs is unable to provide more than half the cost of the conference, we hope to make up the difference by seeking donations from other possible sponsors. Not included in either the conference costs, or in income, are the many hours of organizing time devoted to this by members of the co-sponsoring organization. If this were to be factored into the budget, the amount requested from Cultural Affairs would be less than half of the total budget.

Speakers

1. Phyllis Bennis

is a Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies on the topic of New Internationalism: The Middle East & United Nations Affairs

CURRENT WORK: The Middle East project focuses on supporting a just and comprehensive peace based on an end to Israeli occupation and changing the U.S. role in the Middle East peace process. It is also involved in challenging U.S. policy towards the continuing humanitarian and disarmament crises in Iraq. The United Nations project analyzes U.S. domination of the UN and examines the potential role of the UN at the center of a new internationalism. Since September

11, 2001, the New Internationalism Project has also been involved in assessing the root causes of, and critiquing Bush administration responses to, that tragedy.

BACKGROUND: IPS fellow Phyllis Bennis is also a fellow of the Transnational Institute in Amsterdam. She has been a writer, analyst and activist on Middle East issues, especially Israel-Palestine, for 25 years. Based at the United Nations, she began working on U.S. domination of the UN at the time of the run-up to the Gulf War, and has stayed involved in work on Iraq sanctions, disarmament and U.S. policy towards Iraq. In 1999 Phyllis accompanied a group of congressional aides to Iraq to examine the impact of U.S.-led economic sanctions on the humanitarian conditions there, and joined former UN Assistant Secretary General Denis Halliday, who resigned his position as Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq to protest the impact of sanctions, for a speaking tour. In 2001 she helped found and currently co-chairs the U.S. Campaign to End Israeli Occupation (www.endtheoccupation.org).

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

Before & After: U.S. Foreign Policy and the September 11th Crisis, Interlink Publishing 2002.

Calling the Shots: How Washington Dominates Today's UN, Interlink Publishing, 2000.

Beyond the Storm: A Gulf Crisis Reader, Interlink Publishing, 1991.

Altered States: A Reader in the New World Order, Interlink Publishing, 1994.

From Stones to Statehood: The Palestinian Uprising, Interlink Publishing, 1990.

Phyllis is frequently published in the Baltimore Sun, Middle East International, Middle East Report (MERIP), TomPaine.com, and many other publications. She appears regularly on U.S. and international media.

2. Mike Prokosch

Mike Prokosch is a graphic artist who directed New England organizing for the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) from 1986 to 1998. Mike Prokosch directs the Global Economy Program at United for a Fair Economy and coedited Change the World: Local Ways to Transform the Global Economy (Nation Books).

About United for a Fair Economy

- United for a Fair Economy, is a national, independent, nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. UFE raises awareness that concentrated wealth and power undermine the economy, corrupt democracy, deepen the racial divide, and tear communities apart. We support and help build social movements for greater equality.

"United for a Fair Economy is the single most effective group in the country when it comes to publicizing issues of economic injustice, income disparity, the racial underpinnings of the gap between rich and poor, and ... the yawning chasm between the salaries of corporate CEOs and those of working Americans."

- John Nichols, journalist, The Nation

- **UFE Economics Education Program**

Our economic programs reach thousands of people in religious congregations, unions,

neighborhood groups and business associations. Our programs pick up where the think tanks and speechmakers leave off.

We've got a special knack for transforming dry economic statistics into memorable learning experiences that connect with people's lives and lead to action. To multiply our efforts, UFE also trains and supports a national network of volunteer workshop leaders.

- **War and the Economy - Too Many Guns, Not Enough Butter Workshop**

This is a workshop about economic inequality, not about the morality of war & militarism. We see a cycle of concentrated wealth and concentrated power in the U.S. intensified by the emphasis on militarism.

Workshop goals:

1. Explore the impact of militarism on the US economy.
2. Examine the impact of war & militarism from race, gender, and class perspectives.
3. Demonstrate that war & militarism drain resources from basic family and community needs in general and from addressing the state budget crises in particular.

3. Joseph Gerson

is the Program Director of the Peace and Economic Security Program for the American Friends Service Committee, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Gerson speaks regularly on peace and justice issues, and is the author of three books, including *With Hiroshima Eyes: Atomic War, Nuclear Extortion, and Moral Imagination*, (New Society Publishers, Philadelphia: 1995). The goal of the AFSC New England Region's Peace and Economic Security Program is to contribute to the development of popular movements and political consciousness that can transform U.S. foreign, military and economic policies from maintaining the privilege of the U.S. and other elites to policies based on Common Security and respect for the dignity of each person. The program works to: demilitarize the diplomacy of the Asia-Pacific region; prevent nuclear war and achieve nuclear weapons abolition; create a more peaceful and just Middle East; create greater economic justice and security.

4. Chellie Pingree

is the President of Maine Common Cause, which includes among its issues the role of corporations after the invasion of Iraq. She has authored an article entitled, "Too Much at Stake for Lax Oversight," concerning the \$87 billion spending bill authorized by Congress for expenditures in Iraq, and has testified before Congress on the issue.

Budget

Speakers

Phyllis Bennis	
Airfare	\$500
Room, 2 nights	100
Board, 2 days	90
Honorarium	100

Mike Prokosch	
Busfare (Boston)	65
Room/Board	190
Honorarium	100

Joe Gerson	
Busfare (Boston)	65
Room/Board	190
Honorarium	100

Chellie Pingree	
Mileage	25
Board, 1 day	45
Honorarium	100

Publicity	200
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Refreshments(Coffee, etc.)	200
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Janitorial Service (6 hours)	150
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Total	\$2220
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Income

Publicity, provided by Peace and Justice Center	200
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Refreshments, donated	200
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Donations at the door (\$3x200)	600
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Sub-total	\$1000
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Requested from Cultural Affairs	\$1220
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Cultural Affairs Committee
including the
Distinguished Lecture Series
200 Alumni Hall
University of Maine

December 22, 2003

To: Doug Allen

From: Kathleen March & François Amar, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee, including the Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, "War, the Economy, and the University", has been awarded \$1,000.00. **Please contact Wanda Legere at 1-1516 before your event takes place to arrange for disbursement of award funds.** Note: Reception and University of Maine System payroll expenses are not reimbursable through this award.

Please note that acknowledgment of the *Cultural Affairs Committee* is required on all promotional materials. **A budget report must be submitted at the conclusion of your event and will be considered for future funding requests.** It is assumed that projects are completed within 12 months, therefore, any remaining balance will be returned to the Committee account for further distribution unless otherwise notified.

The Committee notes that it does not fund more than 50% of the amount for any given program. It also asks applicants to consider the most reasonable honoraria possible, as there may not be funding for the higher amounts.

We, the members of the Cultural Affairs Committee, congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.